

January 31, 2007 amendment  
Application Serial No.: 9/287,664

### REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

This application has been appealed to the Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences, and this amendment responds to the December 14, 2006 order of Senior Administrative Patent Judge Mckelvey by canceling claims 28-32. During the prosecution of the application, the examiner allowed claims 1-27 in his Office communication of June 4, 2002 and rejected the balance of the claims, claims 28-32. Applicants appealed claims 28-32 on November 4, 2002, which applicants now seek to cancel without prejudice or disclaimer in order to secure issuance of a Notice of Allowance of the application.

Applicants request that the examiner, upon entry of the amendment, close prosecution of the application and issue a Notice of Allowance, since after entry of this amendment the application will only contain allowed claims 1-27.

Respectfully submitted,

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Dated: January 31, 2007

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